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Avatar: The Last Airbender (TV Series) Edit
Bitter Work (2006)

Quotes

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Uncle Iroh: [*Draws Fire symbol in the dirt*] Fire is the element of power. The people of the Fire Nation have desire and will and the energy and drive to achieve what they want.

Uncle Iroh: [*Draws Earth symbol*] Earth is the element of substance. The people of the Earth Kingdom are diverse and strong. They are persistent and enduring.

Uncle Iroh: [*Draws Air symbol*] Air is the element of freedom. The Air Nomads detached themselves from worldly concerns and found peace and freedom. Also, they apparently had pretty good senses of humor.

Uncle Iroh: [*Draws Water symbol*] Water is the element of change. The people of the Water Tribes are capable of adapting to many things. They have a sense of community and love that holds them together through anything.

Prince Zuko: Why are you telling me these things?

Uncle Iroh: [*Draws straight lines separating the four symbols*] It is important to draw wisdom from many different places. If you take it from only one place, it become rigid and stale.

Uncle Iroh: [*Draws a circle around all four symbols*] Understanding others, the other elements, and the other nations, will help you become whole.

Prince Zuko: All this four elements talk is sounding like Avatar stuff.

Uncle Iroh: It is the combination of the four elements in one person that makes the Avatar so powerful. But it can make you more powerful, too.

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[*last lines*]

Prince Zuko: [*shouting out at skies during a thunderstorm*] You've always thrown everything you could at me. Well, I can take it! And now I can give it back! Come on! Strike me! You've never held back before!

[*pause before he falls to his knees and breaks down in tears*]

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Prince Zuko: But I don't feel any shame at all. I'm as proud as ever.

Uncle Iroh: Prince Zuko, pride is not the opposite of shame, but its source. True humility is the only antidote to shame.

Prince Zuko: Well, my life has nothing but humbling lately.

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Prince Zuko: So, Uncle, I've been thinking. It's only a matter of time before I run into Azula again. I'm going to need to know more advanced firebending if I want to stand a chance against her. I know what you're going to say, she's my sister, and I should be trying to get along with her.

Uncle: No. She's crazy, and she needs to go down.

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Sokka: [*hunting a cute baby animal*] You're awfully cute, but unfortunately for you, you're made of meat.

Bitter Work (TV Episode)

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Uncle Iroh: Lightning is a pure expression of Firebending without aggression. It is not fueled by rage or emotion the way other Firebending is. Some call lightning the cold-blooded fire. It is precise and deadly, like Azula. To perform the technique requires peace of mind.

Prince Zuko: I see. That's why we're drinking tea, to calm the mind.

Uncle Iroh: Oh, yeah, good point. I mean, yes.

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Sokka: [*to Aang about the cute animal*] Aang, this is my friend Fu-Fu Cuddly Poops. Fu-Fu Cuddly Poops, Aang.

Aang: [*picking the animal up*] Aw, what a cute name for a little baby saber-toothed moose lion cub.

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Toph: The key to Earthbending is your stance. You've got to be steady and strong. Rock is a stubborn element. If you're going to move it, you've got to be like a rock yourself.

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Prince Zuko: Uncle. You were unconscious. Azula did this to you. It was a surprise attack.

Uncle Iroh: Somehow, that's not so surprising.

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Sokka: [*Still stuck in the crevice*] Okay, karma person or thing, whoever's in charge of this stuff, if I can just get out of this situation alive, I will give up meat and sarcasm. Okay? Ow!

[*the band holding Sokka's hair in the ponytail comes off after a strong tug by the baby moose lion and Sokka's hair becomes a fuzzy mess*]

Sokka: That's all I got. It's pretty much my whole identity. Sokka the meat and sarcasm guy. But I'm willing to be Sokka the veggies and straight talk fellow. Deal?

Sokka: [*Aang appears*] Aang! Thank goodness. Have you got any meat?

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Sokka: [*after Aang fails to move a boulder*] Rock beats Airbender.

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Aang: Maybe there's another way. What if I came at the boulder from a different angle?

Toph: No, that's the problem. You've got to stop thinking like an Airbender. There's no different angle, no clever solution, trickety-trick that's gonna move that rock. You've got to face it head on. And when I say 'head on', I mean like *this*.

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Toph: This time we're going to try something a little different. Instead of moving a rock, you're going to stop a rock. Get in your horse stance.

[*Aang assumes his stance*]

Toph: I'm going to roll that boulder down at you. If you have the *attitude* of an Earthbender, you'll stay in your stance and stop the rock. Like *this*!

[*Toph demonstrates the stance*]

Katara: Sorry, Toph, but are you sure this is really the best way to teach Aang Earthbending?

Toph: I'm glad you said something. Actually, there is a better way.

[*Toph blindfolds Aaang*]

Toph: This way you'll really have to sense the vibrations of the boulder to stop it. Thank you, Katara.

Aang: [*sarcastically*] Yeah, thanks, Katara.

[*Katara chuckles slightly*]

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Katara: Aang, if Fire and Water are opposites, then what's the opposite of Air?

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Aang: I guess it's Earth.

Katara: That's why it's so hard for you to get this. You're working with your natural opposite. But you'll figure it out. I know you will... Think fast!

[*Katara launches a reed at Aang. Aang splits the reed*]

Katara: Excellent. You have the reflexes of a Waterbending master.

Aang: Thanks Katara.

[*bowing respectfully*]

Aang: Seefu Katara.

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Uncle Iroh: There is energy all around us. The energy is both Yin and Yang, positive energy and negative energy.

[*He holds up one finger on each hand to stand for the two forms of energy*]

Uncle Iroh: Only a select few Firebenders can separate these energies. This creates an imbalance. The energy wants to restore balance, and in the moment the positive and negative energy come crashing back together...

[*He brings his hands together to illustrate the point*]

Uncle Iroh: ...you provide release and guidance, creating lightning.

[*Shows Zuko*]

Prince Zuko: I'm ready to try it.

Uncle Iroh: Remember, once you separate the energy, you do not command it, you are simply its humble guide. Breathe first.

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Sokka: [*while stuck in a crevice in the ground, talking the animal he was hunting*] You probably think I deserve this, don't you?

[*the baby moose lion peers over Sokka's forehead and looks at him*]

Sokka: Look, I'm sorry I hunted you, but that's just the natural order of things. Big things eat smaller things, nothing personal. But this time it didn't work out that way.

[*the baby yawns and then walks in a circle on Sokka's head before lying down again and closing its eyes*]

Sokka: I admit it, you're cute.

[*the moose lion begins licking its paws*]

Sokka: Okay, you convinced me. If I get out of this alive, it's a karmically correct vegetarian existence for me. No meat. Even though meat is so tasty.

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Toph: Yeah, whatever, go splash around until you feel better.

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Sokka: Well, if you can't Earthbend me out of here, go get Toph.

Aang: I can't do that either.

Sokka: You can't? Why not?

Aang: I-It would just be really... uncomfortable.

Sokka: Uncomfortable? Well, I wouldn't want you to feel uncomfortable.

Aang: Thanks, Sokka. This whole Earthbending thing really has me confused. There's so much pressure. Everyone expects me to get it right away. I-It puts me in a really awkward position.

Sokka: Awkward position, I think I know the feeling.

Aang: I-If I try, I-I fail. But if I don't try, I-I'm never going to get it. I feel like I'm caught between a rock and a hard place.

Sokka: Hmm, how about that?

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[*first lines*]

Aang: Today's the day! Can you believe it? After all that time searching for a teacher, I'm finally starting Earthbending. And this place, it-it's perfect, don't you think? Sokka?

[*Sokka, in his sleeping bag, groans*]

Aang: Oh, you're still sleeping, huh?

[*Sokka groans again and rolls over*]

Aang: [*whispering*] Sorry.

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Toph: Good morning, Earthbending student!
Aang: Good morning, Seefu Toph.
Katara: Hey, you never called me Seefu Katara.
Aang: Well, if you think I should...

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Uncle: Pride Is Not The Opposite Of Shame, But It's Source... True Humility Is The Only Antidote To Shame.

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